Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Original) Apparatus, for use with a computing device, for selecting a presence status from a number of available presence statuses comprising:

a data store for storing at least one predeterminable rule;

an activity monitor for monitoring an activity through the device; and

logic for determining the presence status based in part on the at least one rule and in part on the monitored activity.

2.   (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the activity monitored by the activity monitor is defined by the at least one rule.

3.   (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the activity monitor monitors activity of the device.

4.   (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1, [[2 or 3,]] wherein the activity monitor monitors activity external to the device.

5.   (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any previous~~ claim 1, further comprising a presence publisher for publishing the determined presence status to a presence server.

6.   (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any previous~~ claim 1, wherein the logic is adapted for determining a plurality of presence statuses.

7.   (Original) Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the presence publisher is adapted to publish each determined presence status to one of a plurality of presence servers.

8.   (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any previous~~ claim 1, wherein the device is any one of a personal computer (PC), personal digital assistant (PDA), or a telephony-based communications device.

9.   (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any previous~~ claim 1, wherein the determined presence information is published to an instant messaging presence server.

10.   (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any previous~~ claim 1, wherein the determined presence information is published to a session initiation protocol (SIP) presence server.

11.   (Original) A method, for use with a computing device, for selecting a presence status, from a number of available presence statuses comprising:

monitoring an activity through the device; and

determining a presence status based in part on the monitored activity and in part on at least one predeterminable rule.

12.   (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein the step of monitoring comprises monitoring an activity as defined by the at least one rule.

13.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11 [[or 12]], wherein the step of monitoring comprises monitoring an activity on the device.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, ~~12 or 13,~~ wherein the step of monitoring comprises monitoring an activity external to the device.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 11 to 14~~ claim 11, further comprising publishing the determined presence status to a presence server.

16.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 11 to 15~~ claim 11, wherein the step of determining comprises determining a plurality of presence statuses.

17.   (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein the step of publishing further comprises publishing each determined presence status to one of a plurality of presence servers.

.18.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 11 to 17~~ claim 11, for use with any one of a personal computer (PC), personal digital assistant (PDA), or a telephony-based communications device.

-4-

19.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 11 to 18~~ claim 11, wherein the step of publishing comprises publishing the presence status to an instant messaging presence server.

20.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 11 to 19~~ claim 11, wherein the determined presence information is published to a session initiation protocol (SIP) presence server.

21.   (Original) A presence broking system for managing presence information received from two or more devices associated with a single user comprising:

a storage device for storing at least one predeterminable rule; and

means for publishing a presence status to a presence server based on the received presence information and the at least one predeterminable rules.